

The **QUILL**



National Publication of
SIGMA DELTA CHI
Professional Journalistic Fraternity

Volume XI

JANUARY, 1923

Number 1

Wake Up, Sigma Delta Chis

First of all read President Neff's and Alumni Secretary Clark's program for a bigger, better, and greater Sigma Delta Chi. They have given the correct diagnosis of our affairs. Why not answer the call to arms?

WANTED

Fifteen Alumni Chapters by November

If there are five or more members of the Fraternity residing in your city, write immediately for full information concerning the organization of an alumni chapter. Address the Alumni Secretary:

DONALD H. CLARK
424 Merchants-Laclede Bldg.
ST. LOUIS, MO.

THE QUILL

A Journalists' Journal

VOLUME XI

PLYMOUTH, INDIANA, JANUARY 1923

NUMBER 1

The Fraternity's Future

By Ward A. Neff

National President of Sigma Delta Chi

(Our new national president has caught the vision of a better and greater organization. His first message to the fraternity-at-large is a revelation. Read it, digest it, alumni members particularly, then let us get busy along the lines that President Neff suggests.)

Up and doing, Sigma Delta Chi's!

You're needed on the job, every last man of you.

Get busy, Mr. Undergraduate; get busy, Mr. Alumnus!

Carry on for Sigma Delta Chi!

Once you stood blindfolded before the altar and heard this:

"Today, the race has reached its greatest achievement. But there are world-evils to be corrected; there are moral faults to be mended; there are dark corners to be lighted. The well-being of the nation is jeopardized by predatory wealth; men whose souls are dead to patriotic feeling prostitute themselves and their sacred offices to selfish ends; false counsels are heard in the courts and legislative chambers. The national pulse must be quickened; blow must be met by blow; thieves must be scourged from our temples; and our ears must be sealed to false witnesses."

"But where is the Herculean power which can accomplish these reforms? It is at hand! It is that moulder of public opinion, the National Press. The hope of our Nation lies in the education of its citizens. The institution to which all citizens are put to school is the public press. How boundless, then, is the influence of this institution. It becomes the educator, the protector, the disseminator, the evangel of our nation."

"How necessary it is that the press be controlled by men of acumen, of patriotism, of vision! To this high purpose, the control of the National Press by practical idealists, Sigma Delta Chi looks. To inject idealism into the commercialized institution and make it awaken to its opportunities; to shape this Nation after the plans and purposes of the most right-



WARD A. NEFF, vice-president of the *Corn Belt Dailies* and national president of the Fraternity, who issues the call for a greater organization.

eous God; the Brotherhood of Sigma Delta Chi was established."

What Sigma Delta Chi accomplishes towards its purposes must be accomplished largely through individual action, through the ideals instilled in its members as undergraduates and kept alive in its alumni. The fraternity may influence journalism through such declarations as

that made at the Manhattan convention. (See top of editorial column.) But its real accomplishment will come through the every day life and deeds of those who have vowed its vows.

That the influence of Sigma Delta Chi will be a growing influence as more and more members take their places in the "seats of the mighty," goes without say-

ing. With nearly 2500 alumni members, a big percentage of them active in journalism, the fraternity stands at the threshold of a new day.

But the ideals and purposes of Sigma Delta Chi must be kept alive in alumni hearts. Two of the chief policies enunciated by the last convention look toward that end, the organization of alumni chapters and the improvement of the Quill. The fraternity is therefore centering its present activities in these directions.

Fifteen alumni chapters by November! The most interesting journalistic magazine that journalists can produce! These are the goals for the year set up by the national officers.

Achievement of these goals rests with you. Up and doing, Sigma Delta Chi's! Do your part! Help organize alumni! Get in touch with the alumni secretary! Help make the Quill the magazine you want it to be! Write for it! Subscribe for it! Let no one, Mr. Alumnus, be a better Sigma Delta Chi than you are!

Let him who doubts that Sigma Delta Chi is a live red-blooded organization investigate what it is doing; let him attend one of the national conventions; let him see the delegates from the active chapters and the group of alumni members always on hand; let him observe the enthusiasm of the committees at work; let him hear the spirited debates on the floor; let him learn of the activities of the undergraduates throughout the entire year, from their replies and through the competition for the chapter efficiency cup; and let him note throughout the whole proceedings, the serious determination to carry out our purposes and uphold our ideals. He will gain new respect, a new enthusiasm for Sigma Delta Chi and a determination to serve her.

These things, printed convention minutes do not convey, but they are there just the same, to be seen and heard and felt. I would that I could adequately transmit to the fraternity as a whole, the spirit of the conventions.

The creation by the convention of the office of alumni secretary forecasts rapid progress in the establishment of alumni chapters. The principal handicap is inadequate information concerning the location of alumni. This will be partly overcome by information concerning the situation in various localities furnished voluntarily to the alumni secretary by the alumni themselves. Active chapters, too, are expected to cooperate by writing their graduate members when several are known to be located in the same vicinity. Interest is also expected to be developed

through the news of alumni organization work printed in the Quill. Alumni development and activities, it is hoped, will be self-sustaining and this work of the national organization is, by act of the Manhattan convention, to be financed entirely from charter fees and dues received as the work progresses.

Alumni organization is expected also to contribute to the development of the Quill, enabling it to keep its mailing records in better shape and assisting it in securing renewal subscriptions. For the first time, the Quill is so situated that regularity of issue is insured and the maintenance of proper records, and solicitation of advertising and of renewal subscriptions are possible. These things are expected as a result of the employment of a managing editor.

The growth of the fraternity has made it impossible to continue to finance the publication of the Quill entirely from funds received from initiates, as it has been up to date. To help meet the cost under the new plan of handling, the November convention increased the undergraduate initiation fees \$2, making the new fee \$10, at least one-half of which is to be paid to the magazine as a 5-year subscription fee of the initiate. Justly, no provision is made under this arrangement for the continuance of the Quill to those who have received it the full time paid for as a part of their original initiation fee. These members will be expected to renew their subscriptions at the rate of \$1 per year, either through the alumni chapter of which they are members or direct to the managing editor if they are not members of a graduate chapter. Six issues a year are now guaranteed and every effort will be made to make the magazine worth the subscription price. The more members who renew their subscriptions, the better the Quill can be made.

The records and the finances of the national organization have never been in better shape. The officers have never had the excellent cooperation from the active chapters and the existing alumni chapters that they have today. The officers, themselves, are functioning to a man although only one quarter has elapsed since their election. They are in daily contact with one another through correspondence and have met as necessity demanded. The fraternity is also getting enthusiastic service from previous administrative officers and the growing ranks of others who are helping out.

Alumni and Quill development previously referred to constitute only a part of the program the national organization

has under way for the current year. Possible means of stressing ethics are under consideration as well as plans for various improvements in the organization. These, in the form of twelve propositions, are now before the executive council. Definite action will be taken as this Quill goes to press and reference to them will be made in a later issue.

In the meantime, let your ideas be known! Suggestions will always be welcome. Sigma Delta Chi is your fraternity, and your interest and help will contribute much to its success.

TEXANS TO ESTABLISH HUMOROUS MAGAZINE

Texas Chapter of Sigma Delta Chi has been granted permission by the University of Texas students assembly to publish an official comic magazine, and attempts are being made to begin the publication before the close of the present session.

Julian Brazelton '24 has been elected editor of the proposed publication. Henry C. Fulcher '23 will be business manager. A board of directors, composed of D. H. E. Keller, W. H. Jack, Jr., and Moran Dunlap, will supervise the work of the editors and business manager.

It is the intention of the Texas Chapter to issue a high class humorous magazine of the type issued by Sigma Delta Chi Chapters in several universities.

Texas University has been served by an unofficial humorous magazine, the Scalper, for the past several years. This comic, however, has suspended publication, and by sponsoring a high class publication members of the Texas Chapter believe they will serve a real purpose. Dr. Robert E. Vinson, president of the University, has endorsed the assembly bill authorizing the magazine. Efforts to secure authorization of the comic have been made for the past six months. The proposal was carried to the student body in the recent election of student assemblymen. Students favoring the comic were unanimously elected, thus giving the publication the unqualified endorsement of the students.

Several active members of the Michigan Chapter attended the Detroit alumni banquet given in February. They were quite gratified at the interest and enthusiasm shown by the older members of the fraternity and with their activity as an alumni body.

The third annual Sigma Delta Chi gridiron banquet will be given by the Purdue Chapter on March 20.

The Need of Alumni Chapters

By Donald Clark

Editor, The Mid-Continent Banker

"We believe that the future of Sigma Delta Chi lies largely among the alumni; and in order to further the work among them we think chapters should establish closer relations with their respective alumni bodies by means of chapter papers, bulletins, or personal letters, that each chapter should keep accurate records of its alumni members and that each chapter should aid the alumni secretary and the editor of the Quill in their relations with alumni of the fraternity."

This resolution adopted by the eighth annual convention of Sigma Delta Chi at Manhattan, Kansas, is of such vital importance to the future of the fraternity that it should be read and considered seriously by every chapter and by every individual member.

Sigma Delta Chi is perhaps approaching a limit in the number of active chapters. It is just entering the field of alumni chapter expansion and alumni activity.

The distinguished founders of Sigma Delta Chi had a vision for this fraternity of ours. It was a vision of joining together the forward looking, college trained young newspaper men of the country in an organization which would help to keep alive their ideals and enthusiasms and which would unify and make effective their work for the good of journalism. This brotherhood was to take the men in that period of their lives when close friendships are formed the easiest, and pledge them to uphold the ideals of their college years and work for the uplifting of the American press.

Idealistic as this program is, it is intensely practical and worthwhile from the point of view of the common every day newspaper world. The press, in all its departments, is the backbone of American life today. Elevate the standards of the press, and you make life more livable, more enjoyable and more worthwhile for every one of us.

It is through its alumni that Sigma Delta Chi can carry forward this program. Only through organization can the alumni become effective as a unit.

In short then, the first big reason for the convention's resolution on alumni expansion is, that the alumni members are the ones who are best able to carry on the serious work of the fraternity in the professional field. This of course is by

no "holier than thou" attitude on the part of those newspaper men who are fortunate enough to be associated in Sigma Delta Chi. College training doesn't assure a man of professional success; a Sigma Delta Chi badge in no way classes a man above his fellows. It merely means that he has taken a pledge of responsibility; that he has indicated his willingness to go more than half way to make journalism a better profession and a better business.

The second big field of alumni work is in active coöperation with the active chapters. Those of us who are graduates of only a few years standing can still vividly remember how much we as undergraduates appreciated and enjoyed the visits, the letters and help of the fellows out of school whom we thought had "arrived" in the professional field. We wanted their advice on how to get started in the newspaper world; we wanted their ideas of what was worth while and what wasn't, in the training school period.

The alumni, either as units through the alumni chapters or as individuals, can do no greater thing for the fraternity at the present time, than to devote some thought and some interest to the problems and activities of their own undergraduate chapter, or the chapter near to their present home. Investigate the active chapters that are now ranking among the leaders in the fraternity and you will usually find a small group of alumni in the university city or a neighboring city who think it worth while to give Sigma Delta Chi as much attention as any of their professional or social clubs.

The present alumni chapters at Detroit, Chicago, Des Moines and Kansas City have already proved themselves of real value to their own members, to the active chapters nearby, and to the fraternity as a whole. Each of these chapters holds regular monthly luncheons or dinners. Special meetings are held in honor of visiting Sigma Delta Chi and other distinguished journalists. The Detroit and Des Moines alumni chapters maintain employment service and try to place Sigma Delta Chi men in positions in their city.

Alumni chapter organization is simple and each chapter has every opportunity to develop those activities that appeal

to its particular membership. Chapters are granted to five or more alumni upon payment of a charter fee of \$10.00 and approval of the Executive Council. A model constitution and by-laws is now being prepared for the use of alumni chapters. Nominal annual dues and Quill subscription fees are also provided.

The last convention created the office of alumni secretary, charging him to "organize alumni chapters, foster closer relationships between alumni and the national organization, and further the interest of the fraternity through the alumni." He hopes to encourage further alumni organization, and to act as a clearing house for ideas in conducting the work of alumni chapters.

The Executive Council has set a goal of fifteen alumni chapters by the time of the next convention. Four are now organized, and three are in process of organization.

Alumni who are interested in the formation of an alumni chapter in their city are asked to write to the alumni secretary who will give any further information needed and will coöperate in all of the work. Active chapters can materially aid in the work by sending to the alumni secretary the names of graduates living in sizeable cities which offer the proper field for alumni work.

FRATERNITY MAGAZINE FIELD ATTRACTS MANY

The college fraternity magazine field has attracted several members of Sigma Delta Chi.

Frank C. Ferguson (Maine) is editor of the Caduceus of Kappa Sigma. Roger Steffan (Ohio), Past National President, is editor of the Delta Chi Quarterly. Frank W. Scott, Milton G. Silver, and Chester W. Cleveland, all of the Illinois Chapter, are editors of the Alpha Tau Omega Palm, Theta Delta Chi Shield, and Sigma Chi Quarterly, respectively. National Secretary T. Hawley Tapping (Michigan) is editor of the Triad of Acacia.

M. J. Brierton, western manager for Underwood & Underwood, related many of his interesting experiences to a big turn-out of Chicago alumni at their regular meeting in December.

THE QUILL

The Quill is published in the months of January, March, May, August, October, and December. It is devoted exclusively to the interests of journalists engaged in professional work and of young men studying journalism in American colleges and universities.

Official publication of Sigma Delta Chi, national professional journalistic fraternity, founded at Depauw University, April 17, 1909.

CHESTER W. CLEVELAND,
Managing Editor

Entered as second-class matter at the post-office at Plymouth, Ind., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Subscription rates: Non-members, \$1.25 a year in advance; members, \$1 a year.

JANUARY, 1923

"Sigma Delta Chi declares itself as solidly opposed to the debasement of the press as an institution and of journalism as a profession, by any catering to morbid and depraved curiosity."

"Its members believe firmly that the good taste and intelligence of the public are often greatly underestimated, with resultant production of publications that neither honor journalism nor serve democracy. The press will render distinct service to the public if it will moderate its reports with respect to transgressions of moral laws. Sordid details and gross over-emphasis of the importance of such news are too common to need citation, and merit unreserved condemnation."

CLEAN HUMOR

The holiday edition of the Yellow Crab, the humorous magazine of Depauw University which is sponsored by our chapter at that institution, is a splendid example of college humor of the right sort.

Sigma Delta Chi has been a target many times in the past as a result of the sub-standard publications issued by certain chapters.

It is especially significant that the mother chapter of our Fraternity should lead the way in this phase of college journalism. Depauw Chapter even submits a declaration of policy in the editorial columns, which is too choice a bit to go unquoted:

"The Yellow Crab is not a yellow sheet. It may be that some folks have been misled into the idea that wit to be acceptably good must, of necessity, savor of the questionable and the unapproved. If such be the case, those among them who search the columns of this issue of the Yellow Crab are doomed to disappointment. Humor that emanates from the college campus should be expected to be in contrast to that of the street or of the rendezvous of the idler. Variety is the spice of life and not vulgarity or obscenity. To appear in print, that which purports to be wit should first pass the censorship of wholesomeness. Free speech is our prerogative and freedom of the press is our privilege, within the

limits of consideration, but moderation is always a safe and conservative policy.

"It is true that much that is unwholesome finds its way into print either in the columns of our newspapers; through some oversight, or else by way of some medium recognized to be of doubtful character. But the college humorous publication and college humor in general must be established out of this category. A joke labeled 'hot stuff' by Sonny in college should be of such a nature as to evoke the hearty side-splitting approval of Dad at home. The story proclaimed 'rich' by the coed in the drawing-room should be acceptable without variation to Mother's club friends. Humor is exhilarating, smut is nauseating.

"College humor then, should be wholesome, energizing, and acceptable alike to a wide variety of patronage, and unless it meets these demands it fails to qualify as true college humor. Sigma Delta Chi gives you in this issue of the Yellow Crab one brand of would-be wit—you are to be the judge."

WE ARE PROFESSIONAL

The Utah Humbug produced more truth than humor when it said that: "A professional fraternity is a liberal organization of future shoe clerks, senators, bookkeepers, bank presidents, delicatessen dealers, cheese salesmen, literati, and ladies' tailors."

This definition should be a warning signal to Sigma Delta Chi if we desire to operate along strictly professional lines. Chapters should use the utmost care to prevent the Fraternity on the various campuses from resolving into just another badge to wear, another honor to bestow, another initiation fee to remit.

Sigma Delta Chi must not be another haven for joiners. It needs and must have men who believe in its ideals and purposes, and who will put them into practice professionally. Let's watch our membership requirements.

YOUR HELP NEEDED

The Quill, now published six times a year, needs the assistance of every alumnus and active member of Sigma Delta Chi.

The cry, for some years and now more distinct than ever, is: "Give us a magazine worthy of the Fraternity." Unfortunately funds are not available with which to present a pretentious magazine, but this is no barrier to producing an interesting and influential publication.

Take note of "Your Own Page to Edit" on page 15. Then consider yourself relegated to the position of special staff correspondent of the Quill and send us some live news about yourself and other alumni.

Directory of Active Chapter Secretaries

- Depauw—H. P. Maxwell, Phi Kappa Psi House, Greencastle, Ind.
Kansas—Ryland C. Petty, 1409 Rhode Island St., Lawrence, Kan.
Michigan—Martin A. Klaver, 733 S. State St., Ann Arbor, Mich.
Denver—John L. Blake, 2924 Gilpin St., Denver, Colo.
Washington—Charles Berst, 1816 E. 55th St., Seattle, Wash.
Purdue—B. R. Gebhart, Sigma Chi House, W. Lafayette, Ind.
Ohio State—Henry C. Segal, 174 E. Woodruff Ave., Columbus, O.
Wisconsin—E. J. McDonough, 501 N. Henry St., Madison, Wis.
Iowa—Lynn A. Saylor, Daily Iowan, Iowa City, Ia.
Illinois—Ben Kartman, 409 E. Daniel St., Champaign, Ill.
Missouri—C. C. Tucker, Dumas Apartments, Columbia, Mo.
Texas—L. Moran Dunlap, 2310 Guadalupe St., Austin, Tex.
Oregon—Edwin Fraser, Kappa Sigma House, Eugene, Ore.
Oklahoma—Prof. H. H. Herbert, School of Journalism, Norman, Okla.
Indiana—Nelson P. Poynter, Phi Gamma Delta House, Bloomington, Ind.
Nebraska—Charles A. Mitchell, 500 N. 16th St., Lincoln, Neb.
Iowa State—Kenneth Marvin, Delta Upsilon House, Ames, Ia.
Stanford—Charles Prior, Sequoia Hall, Stanford University, Calif.
Montana—Wm. O. Cogswell, The Montana Kaimin, Missoula, Mont.
Louisiana—Walter M. Schwam, Box E, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, La.
Kansas State—Harold Hobbs, Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kan.
Maine—J. M. Horne, Phi Gamma Delta House, Orono, Me.
Beloit—Robert Irvine, Sigma Chi House, Beloit, Wis.
Minnesota—Albert S. Tousley, 659 S. Roberts St., St. Paul, Minn.
Miami—Harold H. Oldham, Delta Upsilon House, 110 S. College Ave., Oxford, O.
Knox—Craig R. Johnson, 304 S. Cedar St., Galesburg, Ill.
Western Reserve—Everett B. House, 2971 Litchfield Ave., Cleveland, O.
Grinnell—Raymond Hare, Dobbie Hall, Grinnell, Ia.
Pittsburgh—W. P. Watts, 442 Amberson Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.
Columbia—Lee Merriman, 57 W. 39th St., New York City.
Colorado—Charles Walker, Jr., 1400 Broadway, Boulder, Colo.
Cornell—J. W. Thompson, 1½ Central Ave., Ithaca, N. Y.
Oregon State—William de Macedo, Pi Kappa Alpha House, Corvallis, Ore.
Marquette—Guy L. Helms, 1115 Grand Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.
North Dakota—Otis F. Bryant, University Station, Grand Forks, N. D.
Northwestern—Arthur Jenness, Wrangler House, Evanston, Ill.

Directory of Alumni Chapter Secretaries

- Chicago—Lee Comegys, 901-11 W. Van Buren St., Chicago, Ill.
Des Moines—Ralph W. Moorhead, 555 7th St., Des Moines, Ia.
Detroit—James Devlin, Detroit News, Detroit, Mich.
Kansas City—Paul E. Flagg, Kansas City Journal, Kansas City, Mo.

An Editor's Obligation

By John H. Harrison

Editor, Danville (Ill.) Commercial News

(Barnstorm in a small town before hitting a metropolitan paper. This is John Harrison's advice. Pick an American town, he adds, where nearly everybody reads English; don't get too near the shadow of a great city, and serve an all-around apprenticeship from writing editorials to wrapping papers.)

Every editor has many responsibilities but each bears the impress of one big, tremendous obligation. An editor may own his newspaper, may have title to it as property; the building, the equipment, type-setting machines and presses; the circulation, the organization, he may claim; the dividends, if such there are, may be his to dispose of as he chooses. But there is a something also, an intangible though definite thing, that is not his. And yet it is his greatest asset; it is that thing on which he cashes in. I mean that quality which we call "good will," or "influence," or "prestige," or the "power of the press." That is only a trust in his hands, for which he must render an accounting. Every new subscriber added to his list in an addition to the trust, an added obligation. It means that the subscriber has voluntarily placed in the editor's hands the power to influence, aye, control, more than to any other agency, the destiny of that subscriber. The reader yields to the editor the right and the privilege of leading, either for good or ill. That editor who does not see it in this light and who is not ruled by the consciousness of this great obligation is, I assert, not fit to be an editor.

It must be admitted that there are editors not thus high-minded. The motives which shape their policies are on a lower level. Some are actuated only for money; some for personal power; some for vanity. There are editors who are like a small boy in possession of a piece of artillery, which he would fire off for the fun of the noise, without comprehending or caring for the consequences of his act.

The primary object of a newspaper is to give the news, with the accent on the news. News is your first concern. Your second is to interpret the news. The news in itself, and your interpretation of it naturally leads to the formation of opinions. These opinions are a by-product of the news. But since the news is



JOHN H. HARRISON, a highly successful editor, who is regarded as the leading possibility in Illinois' next gubernatorial fray.

the raw material out of which current opinions are made, then the by-product becomes very important.

To truly succeed a newspaper must realize that it is a public institution. In order to intelligently fulfill his obligation and properly formulate his policy it is necessary that an editor be in touch with his background. He must live himself into his community as a part of it.

The public must have confidence in its newspaper. It must believe that it is honest. A paper may make an occasional mistake, or take the wrong side of a question but if the public believes that the paper is honest and is actuated by right motives, these occasional errors will not cause loss of prestige nor will the circulation be affected. The public is possessed of a sort of sixth sense

whereby it intuitively knows of the integrity or otherwise of a newspaper.

A newspaper's political views are most of all under the scrutiny of the public. Its readers are influenced to whatever degree they feel the paper is actuated by blind partisanship, by prejudice, by selfishness, or whether it sincerely seeks good government thru the election to office of honest men and the rendering of efficient service.

In journalistic ranks there is much discussion as to the relative merits of the party paper and the so-called independent paper. Some editors hold to the view that to act as a free lance is more effective. Others maintain that the party paper which bores from within to make its own party better and thus merit party success is following the desirable course. The later method at least has the advantage of an organization to back and put into effect the policies advocated.

In any event the highest privilege of a newspaper is to demand the best men in the public service, that there may be honesty and efficiency in administration.

An editor is under perpetual obligation to his readers to see that his newspaper stands for the best in all things of life with particular reference to all public questions, whether they be local, state, or national, and that he demands a selection of the best of men to give effect to high ideals.

OREGON SCANDAL SHEET REDEEMED BY CHAPTER

One of the initiation stunts at the University of Oregon is to have the neophytes put out an issue of the Oregon Daily Emerald, according to their own style. Some prominent metropolitan daily is usually used as a model.

At the last initiation, however, it was decided to let the initiates edit the annual scandal sheet of the University, which Sigma Delta Chi publishes each year and sells at the Y. M.-Y. W. mixer. The paper is issued with the full approval of the faculty. Credit is due the members of the Oregon Chapter for redeeming the publication. In former years the paper appeared, edited surreptitiously and published real scandal subject to the laws of libel and slander. Vicious attacks were made on campus personages, and as a result a number of students were expelled from the University. Sigma Delta Chi then took over the annual editing of such a paper, and since that time none of the objectionable sheets have appeared. The pledges putting out the paper were: Harold Shirley, Arthur Rudd, Howard Godfrey, John Piper, and Ernest Haycox.

O. A. C. SHOW TO FEATURE JOURNALISM EXHIBIT

Oregon State Chapter will take a prominent part in the first O. A. C. business show to be held in the new school of commerce building March 30 and 31. The formal dedication of the building, occupied for the first time this school year, will be a feature of the show, which will be an elaborate affair and which is expected to attract hundreds of high school students from all over the state. Sigma Delta Chi will have complete charge of the exhibits on the ground floor, the central section of which, in eight rooms, houses the department of industrial journalism. The practical side of industrial journalism, as taught and practiced by the various campus publications, will be featured. Sigma Delta Chi will be responsible for getting out a special four-page illustrated newspaper to put in the hands of the visitors.

William de Macedo has composed the music for a new waltz entitled "Every Day in Every Way." The words are being written by Professor Reed and plans are now being made to make a commercial proposition of it. The composition will be featured in one of the downtown theatres and also in Seattle.

NATIONAL OFFICERS MEET IN CHICAGO ON PRESIDENT'S CALL

A meeting of administrative officers was called by President Neff on January 14 at Chicago. National Secretary T. Hawley Tapping, Ann Arbor, Mich., Alumni Secretary Donald H. Clark, St. Louis, and Managing Editor Chester W. Cleveland, Chicago, were present.

Secretary Tapping reported all of the chapters in good condition save the following, which had failed to report pledging, initiation or progress: Montana, Indiana, Iowa, Knox, Louisiana, Ohio, Northwestern, and Oregon State. Montana Chapter appeared to be the only chapter to be in arrears financially with the national organization.

President Neff announced that his alumni association policy called for the installation of at least eleven new alumni chapters during 1923. Alumni Secretary Clark outlined his plan of procedure for accomplishing this.

The matter of a uniform system of book-keeping for the active chapters, including printed forms for chapter treasurer's reports and for remittances to national headquarters, was discussed at length. The national treasurer was instructed to immediately prepare a system of uniform book-keeping and ac-

counting for action by the executive council.

President Neff was instructed to request election of new chapter secretaries and possibly other officers for those chapters which showed particularly weak records of activity and national relationship.

It was voted that every chapter be instructed to prepare a report for the efficiency cup competition for the 1923 convention, the preparation of this report to be obligatory. The reports are to be prepared in duplicate, one copy to be filed in the archives.

It was ruled that alumni chapters do not have the right to elected associate members into the Fraternity. This right had been claimed through a liberal interpretation of the constitution. Associate members may be elected only by the active chapters or by the Executive Council as provided for by the constitution. Alumni chapters may, however, request the Executive Council, through Secretary Tapping, to initiate a journalist to membership. Initiation by an active chapter is preferable because of the collegiate atmosphere.

STEWART AND MCGUIRE ELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP

Minnesota Chapter of Sigma Delta Chi recently elected T. E. Stewart, editor of the University News Service at Minnesota, and W. P. McGuire, managing editor of the American Boy, Detroit, Mich., to honorary membership.

Mr. Stewart, a graduate of Dartmouth, formerly was employed on the Springfield Republican, the Minneapolis Journal, where he was Sunday editor of the city life section for several years, and on several other newspapers. Mr. McGuire, a graduate of Minnesota, and former Minneapolis and St. Paul newspaperman, has attracted national attention during the past year by his work in enlisting high school students to write for the American Boy.

NEW RITUAL PLEASES ANN ARBOR CHAPTER

The new ritual, interpreted by Lee A. White, Past National President, and T. Hawley Tapping, Secretary, was used for the first time at Michigan in February when six new men were initiated into the Fraternity. The initiates were: Richard Heideman, Ralph Smith, John Stephens, Martin Codel, John Mitchell, and J. L. Scrymgeour, the latter being admitted as an associate member.

Chapter members were particularly pleased with the beauty and scope of the new ritual.

The Largest Press Gathering

By H. E. McClelland

Wisconsin Chapter, Sigma Delta Chi

The world's largest press gathering was held in Madison, Wis., December 1 and 2, when 574 delegates to the third annual convention of the Central Interscholastic Press Association met for discussion and entered their publications in contests. The Wisconsin Chapter of Sigma Delta Chi sponsored the meeting, members of the Chapter having charge of all arrangements.

Students and advisors representing high school publications in more than 20 states attended the sessions. Newspapers and magazines from 44 states were entered in the contests. It was the largest gathering of people of the press, in point of numbers, ever held.

Prizes were awarded for the best high school newspapers, magazines and annuals in the United States, for newspapers and magazines in states represented by more than 20 delegations, and for the three publications in classes divided according to enrollment. After winning a prize in one of the higher classes a publication was automatically barred from competition in succeeding classes. Contests for magazine covers, humorous and serious cartoons were also held.

Prizes were furnished by newspapers interested in inspiring young journalists in an attempt to do the best in their prospective careers. The Wisconsin State Journal, the Detroit News, the Indianapolis News, the Topeka Capital and the Minneapolis Journal, contributed state prizes. The Milwaukee Journal furnished the national prizes.

The organization has grown in two years' time from an idea of a few journalism students to an institution capable of assembling the largest number of journalists ever convened. In that short span of time it has grown to be the fullest realization of its founders.

The credit for the organization of the Central Interscholastic Press Association belongs to George W. Greene '22 and Charles P. MacInnes '22, and to Prof. Willard G. Bleyer, director of the course in journalism at Wisconsin. These men conceived the idea of the organization, and were the first to see its possibilities.

The first convention, held in the spring of 1921, was conducted primarily for Wisconsin high school editors. It was soon discovered, however, that the idea was too big for the State of Wisconsin alone. The association was changed dur-

ing the year following the first convention to include all high schools of the middle west and the name now being used was adopted. At the second convention, held in the fall of 1921 instead of the spring, so that new editors could derive the benefits to be had from the convention, a total of 13 states were represented. Greene was general chairman.

The gathering this year was supervised by Professors E. Marion Johnson, Harry E. Birdsong, and Grant M. Hyde, associate members of the Chapter. Harold E. McClelland '23, active, and Fred L. Kildow '23, pledge, are student directors of the association, and have complete supervision of the work being done by the Chapter.

Roy L. French '23, president of the Wisconsin Chapter, conducted round table discussions on magazine contents and gave personal criticism to those magazines desiring it.

George L. Geiger '23, vice-president, led round table for advisors on problems of printing a school paper. He also conducted a personal criticism service for newspapers.

Rodney C. Welsh '22, former editor of the Octopus, campus humor magazine, was in charge of round tables on magazine make-up and humor departments.

A large number of sport editors attended a round table discussion led by Charles J. Lewin '23 on sport writing. Hubert F. Townsend '23 and Herbert H. Brockhausen '23 conducted discussions in art features, annual make-up and engraving contracts. Editorial writing was discussed by H. Hickman Powell '23.

Alfred Willoughby '23 was in charge of sale of coupon books, containing tickets to a banquet, vaudeville performance, ball, and other convention activities, which financed the gathering. More than 100 students in the course in journalism attended the banquet.

Joseph F. Lawler '24, pledge, was publicity chairman, getting news stories on the Associated and United Press wires, in local papers, and in the Daily Cardinal, a student newspaper. Exclusive stories were written for the larger papers.

Other members of the Chapter worked on committees and conducted personal criticism service.

Articles pointing the way to better journalism will be contributed to the

Scholastic Editor, official organ of the association, by members of the Chapter. Fred L. Kildow will be editor of the magazine, which will be issued monthly.

The criticism service, which is eagerly sought by the member publications, will be continued all year by members of the Chapter. Professor Birdsong will have charge of this phase of the work. McClelland will continue as director and supervise correspondence.

KANSAS STATE MEN IMPROVE QUALITY OF HUMOROUS MAGAZINE

Kansas State Chapter has initiated three new members into the fraternity, bringing the active membership to 13. The neophytes are: William Batdorf, Burlington, Kan., Bernard Harter, El Dorado, Kan., and John Gartner, Manhattan, Kan.

The Brown Bull, the Kansas State humorous publication, has gone on a more stable basis this year and its quality is being commended from all quarters. The last issue was called "The College Humor" number, and it burlesqued the frailties of the present type of humor in college magazines, and took up the question as to how much it could be improved. Features of the issue were a trial of college humor, written by two of the associate members of the Chapter, and letters from eminent humorists over the country.

IOWA STATE ADMITS TWO TO HONORARY S. D. C. MEMBERSHIP

John Thompson, associate editor of the Iowa Homestead, and Donald Murphy, associate editor of Wallace's Farmer, were elected to associate membership in the Iowa State Chapter on January 10.

Their initiation will probably take place in Des Moines, the place of publication of the two papers, some time in the near future.

The Daily Illini holds second place among college newspapers in the United States, according to the rank given by Jason Rogers, publisher of the New York Globe. First place is given the Evening Missourian of the University of Missouri and third place to the Michigan Daily.

MINNESOTA DAILY QUITS; NO SUPPORT

The Minnesota Daily is dead. Hard as it is to believe, the student body, which only two months ago was undaunted by a half-million dollar quota for a stadium and auditorium, has somehow been made to feel that securing 500 additional subscriptions—as the final challenge went—was hopelessly beyond its power. The first reflection of the Daily's plight was the so-called postage stamp format in which it began to appear. Now even that form of publication has been discontinued: Dean Nicholson has ruled that so small an organ is out of keeping with so large a student body.

As we have said before, the reason for the collapse was financial rather than editorial. It has been coming on, apparently, for a period of years, during which deficit has been added to deficit, until the prospect of another unsuccessful year brought on the necessity for drastic action.

The straitened circumstances of the paper have, of course, made it the target for almost everybody's criticism. It seems to be popularly agreed: (1) that it is ineffective as a messenger for the university as a whole—especially for the professional schools and the non-fraternity group; (2) that it does not honestly represent student opinion, and (3) that the official bulletin of the university, when consulted in connection with posters and the city newspapers, has robbed it of its greatest usefulness.

The Minnesota Alumni Weekly said:

The students are probably right in charging that the Daily this year has discriminated in favor of society news of certain favored groups. As for the professional schools' neglect—that is not so certain. Regularly, every year, one hears the complaint from the professional schools that the Daily does not adequately present their news. And just as regularly the Daily editors reply that the students of those colleges ought to take more interest in supplying it with news. As if, say the professional students, that weren't what journalists were for!

We are inclined to believe that the Daily did not gain in efficiency through the removal of its office from Folwell basement to the old Christian Association or (as later graduates recall it) Music building. The Folwell office, despite its numerous deficiencies, was near the center of campus life. It was a convenient rendezvous for loafers, frequently; but also for earnest workers willing to do their bit to keep the paper functioning. The present location may not be inviting

to the loafers, but it also discourages the other kind. It is far from almost every college that maintains an active student life, and even for those who use the 14th avenue entrance of the campus it lies too truly off the beaten path. The Daily depends for its success upon a large supply of news-gathering underclassmen and an easy come-and-go of those who have the news to give.

NORTH DAKOTA PAPERS GET S. D. C. NEWS SERVICE

More than 40 daily and weekly newspapers are using the news service sent out by University of North Dakota students. The names of the Sigma Delta Chi and the papers they are serving follow: Charles Allen, Anamoose Progress and Mouse River Farmers' Press; Leslie Erhardt, Grand Forks Herald; Otis Bryant, Napoleon Homestead and Emons County Record; Charles Burke, Bismarck Tribune and Washburn Leader; Peter Burtness, Ransom County Gazette; Walter Folley, Dickinson Press; Allen Retzlaff, Devils Lake Journal; Paul Samuelson, Cass County Tribune; and Charles Evans, Sioux City Tribune.

The Sigma Delta Chi resolution favoring clean journalism has been given wide publicity by the Chapter through the State papers. It was also read into the minutes of the Conference Press Association, and was the basis of talks before the Press Club.

The Grand Forks Herald has offered to establish a prize or scholarship through the Fraternity. The details are now being worked out by the management of the Herald and the president and faculty advisor of the Chapter.

BELOIT INITIATION IS DEFERRED BY ELOPING BROTHER

When last year's secretary of the Beloit Chapter eloped, he not only took the girl with him but the ritual and initiation paraphernalia also.

The latter has just recently been recovered, and the weary pledges of several months standing are jubilant over the prospects of an early initiation.

ILLINOIS INITIATES SIX; PLAN GRIDIRON

Illinois Chapter of Sigma Delta Chi has six new members: Charles E. Harner, D. B. Carre, Francis C. Coughlin, Joseph

C. Godfrey, Jr., Chester L. Kieffer, and Charles E. Noyes.

Malcolm H. Bryan, the lone pledge, is editor of the Illinois Magazine, the University's literary publication, and is literary editor of the Daily Illini.

Illinois Chapter is already collecting dirt for the gridiron banquet although the event is still three months away. All ideas are filed for further reference, and every members jots down any suggestions he may think of, to be used when active work on the banquet begins. Last year's guests are still congratulating us and promising us their redoubled support this year.

NEWS BUREAU SPONSORED BY MICHIGAN MEMBERS

Perhaps the biggest and most efficient of the activities of Michigan Chapter this year is the work of the Michigan News Bureau, which is sponsored and operated by members of the Fraternity. This bureau was established more than a year ago by Sigma Delta Chi as a possible means of a check upon the large amount of harmful news and scandal coming from Michigan during the past few years. The news bureau is attempting to disseminate the proper kind of publicity and to kill off as soon as possible other news which may break from Ann Arbor thru resident correspondents for city papers. Under the direction of Lincoln J. Carter '23, the bureau issues weekly news letters to approximately 200 papers within a 250 mile radius of Ann Arbor. An average of 25 to 50 telegrams are also sent out daily containing news of different activities or students on the campus which may be of interest to one particular newspaper.

Another activity which Gamma Chapter is sponsoring is the annual conference of editors of Michigan high school publications, which is held in Ann Arbor each May. At this time the Chapter members meet with the high school editors and try to teach them all they can about their different publications which have been sent in for criticism. In this way Sigma Delta Chi is able to interest prospective college students in both Michigan as a university and in journalism as a profession.

Alumni in New York City have a dinner scheduled for March 24, at which time organization of an alumni chapter will be perfected.

The Hall-Mills Case

By Peter Vischer

Reporter New York World, First National Vice-President, Sigma Delta Chi

"What's the lowdown?"

That's the first question every newspaper asks when he meets a reporter who worked on the Hall-Mills case in New Brunswick, N. J., the murder mystery of a generation. In the first place, there isn't any known lowdown. In the second place, if there were, there wouldn't be space here to give it. Remember, this was a front page story, at least in the East, for more than a hundred days and it was not uncommon for a paper such as the one I helped to represent to take up to 5,000 words in an evening.

There was one phase of the case, however, that struck me as of the highest importance and that lends itself to brief presentation. I was astounded at the ease with which the great power of the press—that forceful and righteous determination of newspapers to present the truth—was insolently mocked.

The case must be familiar to all who follow news. A rector, married to a lady of high breeding and considerable wealth, was found murdered under a crabapple tree on the outskirts of town side by side with the wife of his church's sexton and janitor. One bullet did for him, but she had been shot thrice and her throat viciously slashed. His body bore signs of having been carefully laid out, even his eyeglasses set neatly on his nose; she had been handled less gently, judging from the disorder of her clothes. Torn love letters of their clandestine romance lay strewn between them.

Motive was the star to which detectives and reporters immediately hitched their wagons—with horses whipped to a gallop. Who had provocation to commit this crime?

Naturally, motive pointed most brazenly to her husband and to his wife. He was promptly eliminated, on the satisfaction that a man of such easy-going and uncaring nature, withal so mild and so ignorant, could not possibly have committed the hideous shooting. Detectives, with most of the reporters following their lead, made up their minds that she must certainly have been the instigator if not as well a witness of the crime. (To charge the same opinionated procedure to the three prosecutors who had the case in hand at various times would hardly be fair.)

One of the so-called star reporters on the case told me before he set foot in New Brunswick that in his opinion the only way to cover a murder story was to make up one's mind just who the culprit must be, then follow all leads that point in the direction of the chosen criminal!

The natural suspicions of the reporters were heightened by the fact that the rector's wife kept herself secluded. For weeks she did not show her face, much less talk to reporters. She made but one statement and the few facts that could be learned about her had to be wheedled out of the suffragist-friend who came to her aid so loyally and protected her so staunchly and from the sterling lawyer this friend brought into the case at a comparatively late hour. Certainly, said the wiseacres, harking back to their first guess, these were the actions of a guilty woman. What other explanation could there be for her declining to be interviewed four or five times a day?

The many other possible theories were quite overlooked. Robbery was dismissed, though the rector's watch, chain and money were missing. Blackmail was hardly given a thought. That three and perhaps more women verily worshiped the rotund little rector was considered insignificant. That New Brunswick had speak-easies, gambling dens, disorderly houses and the like, with a considerable population of thugs and their friends—black and white, American and foreign—was not considered. That the Ku Klux Klan or some similar outfit might have been out to do a little social correcting was laughed at. That the crime may not have been motivated at all was held to be out of the question.

All this is background, to show how it happened that the finger of suspicion pointed only in one direction. And here follows what I am driving at.

Reporters were after news. Whether they thought her guilty or not was of no moment. They had to report what the detectives on the case were doing, supplemented by what they discovered thru their own investigations. They sent their papers every word that detectives said. They quoted anybody and everybody who claimed to know anything at all about the case. They clambered up and down the rickety framework of charges the prosecution was carefully erecting. They

grasped eagerly the countless downright lies told them by hazy-visioned detectives. They wrote columns about the sights notoriety-seeking "eye-witnesses" claimed to have seen.

The upshot of the whole business was that the newspapers—the fair, honest newspapers, organized like Joseph Pulitzer's so that they would "never tolerate injustice"—virtually accused this woman of the foulest of murders. Her crime was that she lived her life in retirement and elected to stay in retirement after her husband was murdered, bad enough, and then publicly revealed as a traitor to his cloth and a cad.

The newspapers made this woman a martyr to sensationalism. I am as convinced of her innocence as were the members of the Somerset County Grand Jury which refused to indict her on the flimsy though outspoken and damning charges which had been broadcasted over the country, yes, over the world, in the press. I feel that the press owes this woman an apology.

It was hardly the fault of the reporters that this happened. It was the fault of the system which held that every statement made by a detective or a prosecutor or even by an irresponsible squatter was news. Some protection must be devised against this vicious system for those innocents wrongly accused who abhor publicity to such an extent that they will not seek redress in libel suits.

Of course this is all an opinion of mine. And the proper answer to it may be the one offered by my favorite copy-reader, who, by the way, clung to his pig-headed suspicions even after the Grand Jury courageously refused to be stampeded by the public clamor—too much of it in the press—for a victim.

"Hell!" he said, "reporters aren't supposed to have opinions."

Newspapers are estimated to have spent more than \$100,000 in maintaining about eighty reporters and feature writers here during the three months' investigation into the murder of the Rev. Edward Wheeler Hall and his choir singer, Mrs. Eleanor R. Mills. This is exclusive of telegraph and telephone expenditures. Telegraph offices estimate the total number of words sent over the wires at more than a million.

COLORADO IS HOST TO HIGH SCHOOL EDITORS

BOULDER, Colo. — One hundred twenty-four editors, managers, and staff members of high school newspapers throughout Colorado were present for the programs of the second annual High School Editors' Conference, conducted on the University campus January 25, 26, and 27 under the direction of the Colorado Chapter of Sigma Delta Chi.

Prominent writers, educators, and newspaper men of the state made addresses during the three day sessions. Chapter members conducted round table discussions on such subjects as make-up, features, editorials, sports, and organization and staff management.

A silver cup was presented to the Spotlight of East Side High School, Denver, the best all-round paper presented at the conference, and ribbon awards were made for the best editorial, news story, and feature article. It is planned to offer two cups for competition at the next meeting in order to encourage more entrants from the smaller schools. One of these would take into consideration institutions of less than 200 enrollment, the other those above that number.

Of the 124 men and women in attendance, 41 announced that they had definitely decided to enter journalism as a profession, while a number of others were considering it.

Recommendation has been made by the retiring committee that the 1923 sessions be held during the third week in November to give the staffs more time in which to put into use ideas obtained at the conference.

ONLY FOOLS FAKE SAYS CORRESPONDENT

"Tell the truth; only fools fake!"

In the foregoing is the keystone philosophy of real newspaper work, Edward Price Bell, London correspondent for the Chicago Daily News, declared recently in an address at the Medill school of journalism at Northwestern university.

"There is nothing from which this world is suffering so much as from a paucity of truth," he said. "Our feasts are feasts of ignorance; our famines are famines of truth. A book, a poem, an essay, a sermon, an editor's inspiration, a reporter's story—in every one of these the power, the beauty, the felicity are in consummate correlation with its truth.

"Love the truth, seek the truth, tell the truth, and your head shall lie easy when your work is done and honor will attend you.

"There is a thing in our profession called a fake. It was invented by a fool. It is used by fools and by fools only. Did you ever think of the magnitude of the presumption of the reporter who thinks there is something in his poor wit that is an improvement on the truth?"

"If you wish to be dramatic, fascinating, powerful—tell the truth. Do you hate tinsel, cant, humbug—tell the truth. If you seek dishonor and obscurity—dedicate your time, talent, and energy to the fake."

Mr. Bell related instances of the world war—word pictures of what he saw and experienced on the battle fronts and in the circles of diplomacy. He related his experiences in breaking down British tradition to the extent of obtaining the first interview ever granted by a secretary of state for foreign affairs—5,000 words from Sir Edward Grey in 1917.

"I resolved to get that in 1900," he said, "and worked until I got it."

ALPHA DELTA SIGMA ISSUES NEW MAGAZINE

The first issue of the Alpha Delta Sigma Quarterly, national magazine of the professional journalistic fraternity which has headquarters at Lexington, Ky., has just appeared.

The current issue contains greetings from national officers, a message from Dr. John J. Tigert, United States Commissioner of Education and an alumnus of the Henry Watterson chapter, University of Kentucky, reports from the chapters in eight colleges and universities, and other matter.

The grand president of the fraternity, founded in 1913 at the University of Missouri, is Dr. A. St. Clair McKenzie, New York; Mr. Oliver N. Gingrich, St. Louis, is past grand president; Mr. Herbert Graham, Lexington, Ky., is grand secretary; and J. Owen Reynolds, Lexington, Ky., is grand treasurer.

FRATERNITY DOMINATES TEXAS PUBLICATIONS

Members of Sigma Delta Chi are at the helm of every student publication at the University of Texas.

William Harry Jack, Jr. is editor-in-chief of The Daily Texan, university newspaper; Henry C. Fulcher is managing editor of The Texan; Maurice Angly is editor-in-chief of The Cactus, university yearbook; Lewis White is managing editor of The Cactus; J. W. Posey is editor-in-chief of The Longhorn Maga-

zine, student monthly publication; Julian Brazelton has been elected editor of the proposed Sigma Delta Chi comic magazine, and Henry C. Fulcher will be business manager.

Sigma Delta Chi members also lead as holders of the subordinate offices of University publications. Deskin Wells, S. M. Pool, Jr., Jack Logan, Maurice Crain, Carl Swartz and Moran Dunlap are night editors on The Texan. Nowlin Randolph, Robert G. Bledsoe, Lea Hume and D. H. E. Keller are members of The Texan feature board. George Gammon is assistant editor of The Cactus. Coy Williams is assistant editor of The Longhorn Magazine.

Among the faculty members of the chapters are: Will H. Mayes, dean of the School of Journalism; W. D. Hornady, professor of journalism; Lloyd J. Gregory, instructor in journalism; H. M. Jones, professor of English; and C. E. Sanders, instructor in English.

FORT DODGE AND FAIRFIELD PAPERS WIN AMES CUP

Two Iowa newspapers, the Fort Dodge Messenger and the Fairfield Tribune, have achieved unique distinction. A committee of judges at the recent Iowa Press convention held in Des Moines awarded these two papers trophies offered by the Ames Chapter of Sigma Delta Chi for the most notable community service rendered in 1922. One cup was offered to the weeklies of the state and one to the dailies.

The Fairfield Tribune, winner of the contest between weeklies, has now taken the trophy two consecutive times. This paper has been a leader in building up the school system of its county and increasing the percentage of children of school age enrolled; it has served the community faithfully by covering all the news; has stimulated trade by exceptional coöperation with merchants; has sponsored a fall festival; has helped put across National Thrift Week in its district, and has performed many other services of note.

The Fort Dodge Messenger has earned a reputation for community service. It has waged a continuous fight for civic betterment, and especially for an adequate park system. It has been progressive in its editorial policy and faithful in its presentation of news.

Two cups are presented each year by the local chapter of Sigma Delta Chi, the winners taking permanent possession of the awards.

IOWA COLLEGIATE PRESS TO CONVENE AT AMES

Ames is becoming a convention college, and the title is due, in part at least, to the efforts of the local chapter of Sigma Delta Chi.

The chapter's invitation to the Iowa Collegiate Press was accepted with the result that that body will meet on the Ames campus April 13 and 14. The Iowa Collegiate Press is an organization composed of the publications of the colleges and universities of Iowa.

In connection with the convention, the local chapter is offering for the first time an annual award to be made to the paper winning the make-up contest. It has not been decided just what form the award will take, but it will probably be a cup or banner.

Collaborating with the Iowa Engineer, Sigma Delta Chi extended an invitation to the Engineering College Magazines Associated, to come to Iowa State College next year. This offer was accepted as well. The date of this convention has not yet been set.

SOUTHERN SENATOR RAPS NEWSPAPERMEN

An attack on the newspaper representatives in the press gallery of the senate was made on February 3 by Senator Helfin (Dem., Ala.), who was twice called to order by the senate for remarks made on the floor.

Helfin declared no newspaper account of his activities "contained the whole truth."

A clear intimation was given by Helfin that "if this thing continues" he would make an effort to bar "representatives of the subsidized press" from the galleries.

AN EDITORIAL ON NEWSPAPER ENGLISH

"It's amazing," says Dr. Walter B. Pitkin of the Pulitzer School of Journalism, "how little about even the elementary principles of the language the average college instructor knows. Not one out of 100 of them can write good enough English to appear in a newspaper."

This statement may puzzle some critical folk who have anything but a high regard for "newspaper English." In fairness it should be admitted that there is a great deal of poor English printed in the daily press, and also in magazines, and that college professors usually think as little of newspaper style as the newspapers think of professional style. It is a fact, however, that the style affected

by the ordinary college professor or instructor is so academic, so much drawn from books and written in a sort of scholastic scale, that the ordinary citizen often has a hard time figuring out what it means.

The newspapers, with all their hasty preparation and appearance of shallowness, and written in a style that is drawn from life, which approximates natural human speech, have solved the psychology of the reading public better than the style of the college. If the purpose of writing and printing is to convey ideas most effectively from one mind to another, newspaper writing is certainly superior.—Rock Island (Ill.) Argus.

FEW DRAMATIC CRITICS KNOW THEIR JOBS—HALL

There are 1,200 newspaper dramatic critics in the United States and fifty of them know their jobs, O. L. Hall, dramatic critic of the Chicago Daily Journal, declared recently, speaking before the Medill School of Journalism on "Amusement and Newspapers."

"The real dramatic critic," Mr. Hall said, "must write with authority and knowledge; he must be fair; he must have a firm conviction regarding the standards of the theatre; and he must remember that it is desperately easy to be smart."

"When it comes to journalistic criticism, the United States has the best and the liveliest in the world. But it is not literature and it is not a permanent, fair record. An actor making a tour of the cities with the 1,200 dramatic critics will be criticised by 1,150 critics who do not understand what they are writing about."

The very publicity which the actors sought has destroyed the halo of romance which formerly surrounded them, Mr. Hall maintained.

"In the old days the mere mention of the name of a stage celebrity was occasion for awe," he said. "Now, thanks to their own desire to have their pictures printed every day; to stories of their follies and the trivialities of their private life; to 'stage plays,' the magic and witchery of the star has vanished."

Reminding his audience that 5,000,000 people must attend Chicago amusements weekly in order that all the seats be filled, and that in the loop alone 80,000 seats to theatres and movies are placed on sale daily, Mr. Hall declared the newspaper was justified in presenting to its readers news of entertainment, drama, baseball, music, and the motion picture.

Of all forms of amusement, he asserted the drama to be the most nearly ideal, possessed of the widest back-ground and of greatest interest to the human mind,

after the problems of food, shelter, clothing, and livelihood.

SORDID STORIES HAVE REAL USE, CRITIC ASSERTS

What prompts stories of the sordid side of life?

Llewellyn Jones, literary critic of the Chicago Post, answers that question.

"Idealism and sympathy inspire the authors of these stories," he says, "and they are not themselves sordid, as many people believe. Such works find their strongest opposition in selfishness. It would do their critics good to read them more."

"The fact is that authors such as Hecht and Anderson feel a sympathy for their characters, the persons who are a little different, a little less fortunate, or a little less ordinary than their fellows, and by writing of them offer them a chance of expression they otherwise would be denied."

"The reason some very 'moral' club-women and others don't like to read them is that they don't like to be reminded of the things that are—the unpleasant things; they want something 'noble,' but what they need is something sordid. This kind of literature is very valuable. It prepares people for life."

Mr. Jones cites the psychoanalytical and the autobiographical books as characteristic of the literary trend of the day, and deplored the melancholy.

TWO BILLS REGARDING LIBELOUS STATEMENTS INTRODUCED IN OKLA.

Two bills dealing with libel and slander have been introduced into the lower house of the ninth Oklahoma legislature.

The first, house bill number 241, is by E. P. White, Bennington. This provides that the circulation of a false statement injuring a person's character shall be a penitentiary offense of not less than two nor more than ten years. The truth of the detail of any statement alone shall constitute a defense. The proof that there was a partial foundation for a libelous statement against any person shall be no defense.

The other bill, house bill number 251, is by J. L. Montgomery, Anadarko. This provides that an editor, ten days previous to publishing libelous statements against a candidate for office, shall submit the charge to the candidate and give him a chance to write a reply, which shall be published at the same time the libelous charges are printed. If this is not complied with the editor shall be deemed guilty of felony and subject to fine and imprisonment.

RECENT NEWS OF THE BREADWINNERS

Ed Angley (Texas) has assumed active charge of the London office of the Associated Press as cable editor. His office handles all Associated Press dispatches to America from the European continent.

Royston Crane (Texas) is now on the art staff of the New York World.

Reavis Cox (Texas) is employed by the Associated Press in New York City.

Silas B. Ragsdale (Texas) is now city editor of the Galveston News.

William Verran, Jr., (Washington) is editor of the Wapato (Wash.) Independent since his father's retirement. William Verran, Sr., is an associate member of the Washington Chapter.

Ralph Casey (Washington) is a member of the faculty of the University of Oregon school of journalism.

Mitchell V. Charnley (Washington) is on the local staff of the Detroit News.

Frank M. Lockerby (Washington) is assistant day editor in the Spokane bureau of the Associated Press. Pearce Davies (Washington) is night editor in the same office. Lockerby was married recently to Miss Lucile Ramthun (U. of W. '22).

Byron Christian (Washington) is in charge of the new capital bureau of the Associated Press at Olympia, Wash.

Rox Reynolds (Washington), who has been holding down the fort at the Seattle Post-Intelligencer as a column writer since his graduation, has been joined by Chapin Collins (Washington '21) as a copy reader, Steele Lindsey (Washington '20) as assistant sports editor, and Stanley Orne (Washington '22) as marine editor. Bill Chandler, (Washington associate), is news editor.

Matt O'Connor (Washington) is now editorial secretary of the University of Washington, succeeding Robert W. Bender (Washington), who is Northwest publicity manager for the Universal Film Mfg. Co.

Roy G. Rosenthal (Washington) is joint owner with M. Lyle Spencer, director of the University of Washington school of journalism, of the Montesano Vidette. Rosenthal is editor. A. Wendell Brackett, (Washington) is his editorial assistant.

K. D. Pulcifer (Illinois) has severed his connection with the Associated Press,

Chicago, to become editor of the Pennsylvania News, an employee's magazine sponsored by the Pennsylvania Railroad, Northwestern region. He is located at Room 405, 323 S. Wells St.

Kenneth W. Clark (Illinois), formerly of the United Press, is now a staff correspondent for the International News Service at Washington, D. C.

Tom Parry (Missouri), who graduated in February, is on the Chicago Daily News.

William P. Green, director of the work of the National Vigilance Committee of the Associated Advertising Clubs of the World, while apparently delirious disappeared on January 22. A reward of \$500 is offered for information of his whereabouts by the A. A. C. W. Green is a former National Treasurer of the Fraternity, and once edited the Quill.

C. Harold Hagstrom (Purdue), is connected with the Stafford Engraving Co., Indianapolis, and is living at 163 Norwalk Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.

Sylvan Lyksett (Minnesota) and Lloyd Whitbeck (Minnesota), are city editor and reporter, respectively, of the Sioux Falls, S. D., Press.

Ralph Hillgren (Minnesota), after working on twin city papers a year, is now making a tour of the world. He is in Berlin at present.

Marvin Harms (Kansas) is with the Ferry-Hanly Advertising Co., Kansas City, Mo.

Francis Smith (Michigan) is getting out the clearing house weekly for the Cadillac Motor Co., Detroit, Mich.

Gerald P. Overton (Michigan) is with the Associated Press at Lansing, Mich.

Brewster P. Campbell (Michigan) is on the Baltimore Sun.

Homar G. Bryson (Kansas State) has succeeded W. E. Drips as instructor in journalism at Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa. After his graduation from Kansas State Agricultural College, Bryson went immediately to the Eaton (Ohio) Register-Herald as editor. He remained with that paper until his acceptance of the position at Ames.

Stewart D. Owen (Illinois) has been promoted from telegraph editor to city editor of the Huntington, W. Va., Advertiser.

Albert V. Mead (Kansas State) has taken a position in the advertising department of the Capper publications. Mead's department is soon to be moved to Chicago.

Randolph Palmer (Kansas State) is now head of the journalism and printing department of the high school at Salina, Kan.

Morse Salisbury (Kansas State) who, in addition to his college work, was city editor of the Manhattan Morning Chronicle for some months, at present is publicity director for the memorial stadium campaign.

Robert W. Richards (Illinois-Northwestern) is assistant state editor of the Beacon-News, Aurora, Ill.

Robert A. Drysdale (Illinois) and Charles K. Boeschstein (Missouri) are on the editorial staff of the State Journal at Springfield, Ill.

Donald D. Hogate (Depauw) is covering the state legislature for the Indianapolis Daily Times.

Horace B. Ward (Knox) is civic and welfare editor of the Grand Rapids Press. In a recent letter Brother Ward said: "My membership in Sigma Delta Chi meant much to me while in college and I do not want to lose contact with it now." This is but another expression of the growing alumni interest in the Fraternity.

R. R. Barlow (Wisconsin), an Executive Councillor of the Fraternity, was elected secretary-treasurer of the American Association of Teachers of Journalism at its Chicago convention in December. One of his new duties will be to supervise the publication of the organization's monthly bulletin.

Donald H. Clark (Grinnell), the Alumni Secretary, resigned as editor of the Underwriters Review, Des Moines, Ia., to accept the editorship and management of the Mid-Continent Banker, St. Louis, on January 1. He is located at 424 Merchants-Laclede Bldg.

Ralph H. Niece (Depauw) is manager of the foreign advertising department in the Western office of the New York Herald, the Sun, and the Evening Telegram, located at 208 S. La Salle St., Chicago.

E. M. Wakfield (Michigan) is the editor of Furniture Age, published at 4828 Sheridan Road, Chicago.

William D. Boutwell (Illinois) is editing a house organ for postmasters at Washington, D. C.

George Finley Simmons (Texas), known in the Lone Star State as an authority and writer on birds, has been appointed Deputy Fish and Game Commissioner of Texas.

Lloyd J. Gregory (Texas) is now instructor in journalism in the University of Texas. Gregory was formerly a reporter for the Philadelphia Inquirer. He is teaching editorial and feature writing.

L. L. Engleking (Texas) is telegraph editor of the Austin (Texas) American.

William Thornton (Texas) is staff correspondent for the Dallas News at the Texas capitol at Austin.

Mark L. Haas (Washington) is editor-in-chief of the Fullerton (Calif.) Daily News.

Harold H. Marquis (Washington) is advertising manager for the Miller Freeman trade publications in the Southern California territory, with headquarters at Los Angeles.

Loren D. Angevine (Washington) is owner and editor of the Stanwood (Wash.) News.

The whole town of Puyallup (Wash.) turned out to say farewell to Clark Squire (Washington), when he recently left the Puyallup Valley Tribune to join the local staff of the Tacoma Times.

Richard W. Buchanan (Washington associate) has been advanced to editor-in-chief of the Seattle Times.

Tommy Dobbs (Washington) is owner and editor of the Snohomish (Wash.) County Tribune.

Harold B. Johnston (Illinois) has returned to Springfield, Ill., as Sunday editor of the State Register.

H. R. Pinckard (Illinois) has left the Danville (Ill.) Commercial-News to become a reporter on the Huntington, W. Va., Advertiser.

Donald M. Glover (Illinois) has a lengthy article in the November issue of Archives of Surgery on osteosarthyroses, whatever that may be.

T. P. Bourland (Illinois) has left the University to take up advertising work in New York with Sampson Raphaelson (Illinois).

Henry C. Fulcher (Texas), managing editor of The Daily Texan, was telegraph editor of the Austin American for one year previous to assuming his present duties.

Paul H. Hubbard (Illinois) holds down a desk job on the State Journal, Springfield, Ill.

W. Lloyd White (Illinois) is on the staff of the Benton Review at Fowler, Ind.

E. P. Leonard (Illinois) is on the editorial staff of System Magazine in Chicago.

Ralph T. McQuinn (Illinois) has the city desk on the Peoria Herald-Transcript.

James C. Colvin (Illinois) edits the largest semi-weekly in the United States, the Montgomery News, published at Hillsboro, Ill.

Prof. Frank Thayer (Wisconsin) of the Medill School of Journalism has been a recent contributor to System, the National Clothier, and the Capper publications. He was recently elected a member of the executive committee of the American Association of Teachers of Journalism.

Chester W. Cleveland (Illinois) has written the words to a fraternity fox trot called "My Blue and Gold Girl." The music was written by Harold Weeks of Hindustan, Chong, and Fuzzy Wuzzy Bird, fame.

Directory of Sigma Delta Chi Officers

Honorary President: Dean Walter Williams, School of Journalism, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.

National President: Ward A. Neff (Vice-President, Corn Belt Farm Dailies), 836 Exchange Ave., Chicago, Ill.

First National Vice-President: Peter Vischer (New York World), 13 S. 27th St., Flushing, N. Y.

Second National Vice-President: H. H. Herbert (Director, School of Journalism), University of Oklahoma, Norman.

National Secretary: T. Hawley Tapping (Times-News), 521 E. Jefferson St., Ann Arbor, Mich.

National Treasurer: George F. Pierrot (The American Boy), 1467 Grand Blvd., West, Detroit, Mich.

Alumni Secretary: Donald H. Clark (Editor, Mid-Continent Banker), 424 Merchants-Laclede Bldg., St. Louis, Mo.

Managing Editor, The Quill: Chester W. Cleveland, Suite 440-42, 608 S. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

Publication Board, The Quill: Ward A. Neff, Chicago; Kenneth C. Hogate, New York; Lee A. White, Detroit.

Executive Councillors: William E. Drips, Wallace's Farmer, Des Moines, Iowa; R. R. Barlow, Journalism Department, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.; Paul E. Flagg, Journal-Post, Kansas City, Mo.; Gerold Robinson, The Freeman, 116 W. 13th St., New York City.

Past National Presidents: William M. Glenn, The Morning Sentinel, Orlando, Fla.; Laurence Sloan, 552 Riverside Drive, New York; S. H. Lewis, The Lyndon Tribune, Lyndon, Wash.; Roger Steffan, 78 27th St., Elmhurst, L. I., New York; Robert C. Lowry, 513 Slaughter Bldg., Dallas, Tex.; F. M. Church, The News, Cadillac, Mich.; Lee A. White, Detroit News, Detroit, Mich.; Kenneth C. Hogate, Wall Street Journal, 44 Broad St., New York City.

Your Own Page to Edit

TO THE READER:

The space below is for notes about yourself and other alumni you may know. Send us news about births, weddings, deaths, professional changes, political and civic activities—and tips on things that the Quill should publish.

Write them down now, tear off this blank and mail it immediately to:

CHESTER W. CLEVELAND

Suite 440 608 S. Dearborn St.,
Chicago, Illinois

Name Chapter
Address

Lester Lear (Ohio State) is assistant Sunday editor of the Brooklyn Eagle.

A. D. Curfman (Ohio State) is part owner of the Westerville (Ohio) Public Opinion.

W. Ray Palmer (Ohio State), formerly of the Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, is now part owner of the Barnesville (Ohio) Enterprise.

Robert T. Mason (Ohio State) is with the Iron Trade Review of Cleveland, Ohio.

Ralph S. McFeely (Ohio State) is with the Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch.

William P. (Scoop) Dumont (Ohio State) resigned his duties as chief of the Ohio State University News Bureau to return to the White Motor Car Company of Cleveland on March 1. He will be succeeded by James E. Pollard (Ohio State) telegraph editor of the Ohio State Journal.

Philip W. Porter (Ohio State) is on the Cleveland Plain Dealer courthouse beat.

Thomas B. Meek (Ohio State) is with the S. W. Strauss Company, New York City.

Harlan W. Venrick (Ohio State) and Estle D. Leonard (Ohio State) are on the copy desk of the Youngstown (Ohio) Vindicator.

Sidney A. Wells (Ohio State) is engaged in advertising work in Akron.

Maurice A. Schapiro (Ohio State) is in the advertising department of the Charles Meiss Shoe Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Carrol I. Burtanger (Ohio State) is in the advertising department of the Dayton Morning Journal.

Wilbert J. Bach (Ohio State) is with the Miami (Fla.) Herald.

W. Vaeth (Ohio State) and W. Prentiss Brown (Ohio State) recently purchased an advertising agency in Columbus, Ohio.

Leon A. Friedman (Ohio State) is with the Irwin Jordan Rose Advertising Agency, New York City.

Nelson H. Budd (Ohio State) is a member of the Cleveland Plain Dealer staff.

A. Bernard Bergman (Ohio State) is managing editor of the Jewish Tribune New York City.

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